TRAVANCORE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

SECOND COUNCIL.

FIRST SESSION, 1101.

(OFFICIAL REPORT.)

Tuesday, 20th April, 1926/8th Medam, 1101.

The Deputy President took the chair at 11-38 of the clock.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[*Order made by the President under Standing Order No. 12* —

(1) Printed copies of the questions and answers to be put and given at a meeting of the Council shall be placed on the Council table 15 minutes before the President takes his seat.

(2) The questions shall be put and answered in the following manner :—

The Secretary shall call the name of each interpellator in serial order, specify the serial number of his questions and make a sufficient pause to allow him a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place, if he is desirous of asking a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.]

Scheme re Improvement of Forest Communications.

202. **MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI** (*Commerce and Industry, South*): With reference to the statement made by the Dewan in February 1924 at the twentieth session of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly under the head 'Forest' *viz.*, "Vacillation should be avoided and a definite programme of improvements to communications should be drawn up with courage and promptitude," will the Government be pleased to state whether any programme has been drawn up, and, if so, to place the same on the table?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): A settled programme has been accepted and every year a considerable amount of money is being spent in improving waterways to facilitate the transport of timber, as it is found to be the best and cheapest method. Wherever the improvement of rivers is not possible, new roads are gradually being opened and old ones improved.

Improvement of Forest Communications.

203. **MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI** (*Commerce and Industry, South*): Realising that the steady expansion and improvement of communications in forest areas will alone remove the defect of delivering

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[Mr. S. Piraviperumal Pillai.]

timber and other products at the sale depots and commercial centres at the rates and in the bulk that would pay merchants to transact business with the Government, will they be pleased to state what efforts they have made towards that direction?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): The Member is referred to the answer to interpellation No. 202.

Report of the Committee on Royal Trees.

204. **MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI** (*Commerce and Industry, South*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether the Committee appointed to enquire into the question of giving full proprietary right over Royal trees standing on registered holdings to the owners thereof have submitted their report, and, if so, will the Government be pleased to place the same on the table?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): The Committee appointed to enquire into the question of giving to the owners proprietary rights over Royal trees standing on registered holdings have not yet submitted their report.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): With reference to the answer given, may I know from the Member how long is it since the committee have finished their labours?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): The committee have not yet submitted their report.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): How long is it since they have finished their labours? That is what I want to know.

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): Government do not know if they have finished their labours.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): If the Government do not know that, then may I know who can know better of their own publications?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): The committee have not yet finished their labours because the report is not ready. The committee alone know when they may finish their report.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): In the Address of the Dewan to the Members of the twenty-first session of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly I find the following statement—

"The committee appointed by the Government in 1098 to enquire into the question of giving full proprietary right over royal trees standing on registered holdings to the owners thereof has completed its labours and its report is shortly expected."

From this it will be seen that the committee has completed it labours. But the answer of the Member is that their labours have not yet been finished.

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